

Historical Events of the Early Settlement of Midway Copied  
from the Historical Entries on the Ward Record as Recorded by--

John Huber Sr., Ward Clerk

The first settlers of the west side of the banks of the Provo

River and the various locations on the same side as far up as the  
mouth of Snake Creek and White Pine Canyons came from Provo and  
American Fork. They located upon two main places. One of these

1859-60 places was called Midway or Lower Settlement. Those who first  
built there were Jimmie and Joseph McCarrel, Benjamin Mark Smith,  
Attewall Wotton, Jeremiah Robey, Sidney H. Epperson, and others,  
who came in 1859 and 1860. In the year or two following came the  
Woods Family and also the VanWagoner. John Houten Van Wagner  
there built the first flour mill in the country. In 1864 this  
settlement contained about twenty families, who up to this time were  
organized as a Teachers District under the auspices of the upper  
settlement which was called Mound City. In the same year (1864)

1864 Elder David Van Wagoner was appointed presiding elder over the settle-  
ment of Midway. The settlement was located about a half mile north-  
west of the mouth of Snake Creek upon both banks of said creek.

Mound City, as the upper settlement was named, was situated on  
both sides of Snake Creek about one-fourth mile southward of the  
junction of Snake Creek and Pine Creek. The first settlers there were  
Peter Shirts, Nathaneal Riggs, E. and A. Hanks, Dr. John Gerber,  
John Fauset, S. Thompson, Norton Jacobs, the Wilsons, Abegglen,  
Alplanalps, Bonners, Cunninghams, Penrods, and others. All those  
came during the years 1860--1863. Sidney H. Epperson on June 26, 1866  
was appointed presiding Elder over Mound City which numberer in 1866  
about 36 families. The presiding Bishop over the county was Joseph  
S. Murdock of Heber under whom the above named organizations and  
appointments took place.

In the year 1866 the Indians south of us became hostile, stealing horses and stock from the south and east of Provo River. For the sake of better protection both the people of the lower settlement or Mideay and those of Mound City pulled down their houses and stable and moved together, erecting their houses upon a rocky flat on the east side of Snake Creek about half way between the two former settlements. This new place which thus sprang into existence within two or three days was called Midway as it was located within the bounderies of the former Midway. ( Each family occupied 33 feet front. The houses were put up arcung a square each house facing toward the square. There were 67 families in all. The people were poor depending very much upon one another regarding teams, bread-stuff, etc. All had log huts most of them of the rudest kind. The neighbors most of them had to borrow fire from one another in the morning if at any time that there own fire would go out over night. The one who raised the first smoke the morning was sure to have someone come, in immediatly with a fire shovel to get some glowing coals, as matches were then a scarcity in any homes. S. W. Epperson then presided over this new Midway. Stock was here all the time and guards were kept during the whole season from the fifteenth of May 1866 until September following. We saw nothing of the Indians.) The crops in 1864 were excellent. In 1865 much damage by frost and rain so the harvers could hardly be gathered. In August and September 1865 it snowed and rained for several weeks so that the grain was beaten to the ground. Much of it growing to the soil, sprouting and fotting so that the grain would hardly make flour fit for the use of man. We had to use it however, as we had no choice. The crops of 1866 and 1867 were very fair. On the 27th day of July 1867 we saw the first grasshoppers. They seemed to come over the mountains west and northwest of us. The writer of this was then putting up hay in the so called "Soldier" when on the day mentioned the grasshoppers. or locusts came. They seemes to drop dwon from a height of several thousand feet in numbers untold. The crops

were so far matured that we suffered but little during that year. The locusts deposited their eggs however, and in 1868 everything in the shape of grain and vegetables was destroyed. Most of the able bodied men went to work upon the Union Pacific Railroad which was then approaching Green River. Work was well paid for and all those who desired had an opportunity to earn money enough to purchase the necessities of life for one year at least. Not only this alone was possible for many of the brethren came home with good teams, wagons, stover, farming implements, etc.

In 1868-69 a substantial rock building was reected upon the south-east corner lot of the public square. In this house a good school was kept. This house was also used for a meeting house up to the time when the Tithing Office was completed in 1873-74. On March 11, 1868 S. H. Epperson was reappointed as Presiding Elder of Midway, with David Van Wagoner and Ira N. Jacobs for councilors. This appointment was effected by the Presiding Bishop, Abram Hatch. On the tenth of April 1870 S. H. Epperson and councilors were released from the fore-going appointment and Henry S. Alexander was appointed as presiding Elders with David Van Wagoner and John Huber as his councilors. John Huber, being called on a mission to Switzerland at the General Conference April 17, 1871, was released from his appointment as councilor to Pres. Alexander about the 23rd of April 1871. Matters remained in this state until the time of the organization of the Wasatch Stake of Zion under the direction of President Brigham Young. This took place at a conference held at Heber City on July 14 and 15, 1877. Abram Hatch was appointed and set apart as President of the Wasatch Stake of Zion, with Thomas H. Giles and Henry S. Alexander as his councilors, all previous appointments having first being withdrawn. The Wasatch Stake of Zion embraced all the settlements of Wasatch County, and all that part of the county being on the west side of Provo River was designated as the

Organized

"Midway Ward" of the Wasatch Stake of Zion. On the 15th day of July 1877 David Van Wagoner was appointed and set apart as the Bishop of the Midway Ward with the unanimous consent and approval of the Saints present at the Stake Conference at Heber City by the direction of the First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. David Van Wagoner was already holding the office a High Priest. Apostle John Taylor was mouth when D. Van Wagner was set apart as Bishop. John Watkins was chosen and set apart as first councilor by Apostle Franklin D. Richards, and Alvah J. Alexander was chosen and set apart as second councilor by Apostle John Taylor. About that time the first presidency called upon all the Saint to repent of their sins and be rebaptized and reconfirmed. Many of the people responded to this call. All administrations had to be performed by those fo the Priesthood who had already been rebaptized and reconfirmed. At this time there was no complied record in the Ward with the exception of the one kept by John Huber for the locar Quorum of High Priests, which had been organized under the direction of Pres. John M. Murdock and councilors March 10th 1867. After the stake Ouganization was completed to the extent mentioned this local Quorum of High Priests Ceased to assume the shape fo an organized body over which, by the way. Samuel Thompson had presided, but the High Priests were requused to meet ia a Stake Capacity at Heber City. The records of all rebaptisms as well as first baptisms and confirmations were now kept on sheets and slips of paper by the various elders who officiated in the ward until March 23rd 1878 when by motion of Bishop Van Wagoner, sustained by the unaniomous approval of the Saints at the Sabbath Meeting held in the Tithing Office, John Huber was appointed as clerk of the Midway Ward. The Bishop purchased a record therein the clerk entered the names and genalogies of those who appear. The ordinations of the High Priests Quorum of Midway. Many things or items were taken from papers left by the former Clerk, William Walter Wilson.

Other items were compiled from family records and journals as also from data furnished by the Officiating Elders at that time. The labor of compiling the records was done by the clerk of the ward during the years of 1878-79-80-81-82. Every item of importance and in any way authentic as far back as 1860 was carefully gathered up and composed. Everyone has so far had a chance to approve or correct the entries in this book as far as those entries may relate to himself of family or his administration. Since 1876 every entry is correct as far as we know. Since 1878 the clerk has made it his duty to hear with his own ears and see with his own eyes the administrations of baptisms, confirmation, blessing of children and ordinations, taking minutes thereof at the time and place, hence we know this record to be in the main true and particularly so since 1876

Up to Dec. 31, 1881 the Midway Ward numbered 625 persons who claimed a standing in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. However about one-fourth of this number had not yet complied with the request or being re-baptised for the remission of their sins and renewal of the former covenants. At this time a person not having complied with this request since it was made upon the Saints by the First Presidency and the Twelve Apostles in the year 1875-76 had not a good standing as a Latter Day Saint, and such were not admitted to the house of the Lord or called to administer to or in the ordinances pertaining to the Priesthood.

On April 4, 1881 at 10 o'clock A.M. the corner stoner of the Midway Meeting House were laid. At the hour mentioned the Saints gathered at the center of the south half fo the Public Square. Bishop David Van Wagoner in the presence of the assembly explained the purpose and necessity of having a house properly started, built and dedicated to the Worship of the Lord. He then dedicated the southeast corner stone which had with the other three been made ready for this purpose by the stone mason, Elder Joharies Sonderegger. The Bishop in his dedicatory prayer called upon the Lord

In the name of Jesus to bless the undertaking in every respect. Also to bless the Priesthood of the Church in their various positions and all the Saints of the Most High, when all the Saints present assented with a unanimous "Amen". Elder John Watkins dedicated the southwest corner stone, Alvah Alexander the northeast, and John Huber the northwest. All these officiating were High Priests. There was at this time to no other Ward organization of Priesthood as the Seventies were organized in a shortly afterwards and the Elders were organized in a Stake Capacity. Thus the ceremony of laying and dedicating the corner stones of the meeting house was declared complete. The house is to be 30 feet wide by 60 feet long and 16 feet high from the first floor to the ceiling, being built with a part from the means permitted to be used by the Council of the Twelve Apostles, arising from the sole of and disposition of tithing. Hay, Potatoes, vegetables, and other perishable articles, the rest of main part of the means necessary is to be made up by the Donations and offerings to this purpose, of the people of the Midway Ward.

Nothing of any great importance happened during the time between 1881 to 1886. Crops were good and provisions cheap and plentiful. Wheat and oats one cent a pound and potatoes hard sold at twenty-five cents a bushel and beef at seven and eight cents a pound. While we enjoyed good health we had plenty of labor and also enough food. In 1885-86 an organ was bought costing \$125.00. John Watkins, John Huber, and Andrew Burgner were appointed as a committee to purchase an organ and to gather up means to pay for the same. In June 1886 the last payment was made to the Estate of D.O. Calder of Salt Lake City. On May 23, 1886 the meeting house was so far built as to have meeting therein. At eleven o'clock of said day the Saints

assembled in the new meeting house. The services were as usual. Bishop Van Wagoner stated that we were only \$40.00 in debt on the house but needed about \$50. for the windows which were not in yet with the exception of the sky-light over the doors. The speakers were Bishop Van Wagoner, Geo. Wilson, A. Wooton and J. Watkins. A.J. Alexander offered prayer, John Huber acted as chorister. The choir sang the hymns on page 224--11--151 and Sweet Hour of Prayer.

In the year 1887 many of the Saints who came from Switzerland during the last twenty-five years went to the Logan Temple there to officiate for their dead. This labor caused a good influence to be with all who were ready to partake thereof. This year was a very good one as we raised much grain of an excellent quality. Money was plentiful, so to speak, and none needed to complain. The health of the people was good, notwithstanding the measles and other periodical troubles of a like nature among us. There were but few deaths.

The year 1888 was another good year for us. Feb. 11 and 12 1888 the first Conference meeting was held in the Stake House at Heber City, although the house was yet unfurnished. We have for this year 103 Tithe-payers who paid \$2037.71---19 Tithe-payers more than in 1887. More cash was paid in than in former years and it appeared as if our young men desired to be more faithful in this line. Crops were very good, health of the people excellent, much fruit was brought up from Utah County were unable to take care of this fruit as such and abundance was raised. During the least two years the U.S. Government through its official, Frank H. Dueyer, marshal, seized the church property 1,000,000 dollars worth. In 1888 the lawyers and judges had a great time over it seemingly all wanting to become prominent in this matter and as it were "getting on silice" for themselves.

Our political rights are fast vanishing. Our schools must be strictly secular----the Lord must have nothing to say there. The school law giving three mills on the dollar to the teacher seems to have delivered us into the hands of unbelieving tax-payers. As a rule the saints are getting tired of it and are casting about for denomination schools that is schools of their own faith, Latter Day Saints schools. The new West Educational body non-sectarian have a school here, but they are not well attended in Midway. They do not profess to teach any religious views, perhaps they have good reasons for not doing so.

In 1888--1889 we had so far the mildest winter yet known here with only about six inches of snow, the mountains sides were bare all winter.

In Feb. 1889 Ogden City went liberal (gentile) in its election of municipal officers by a majority of 428. The Ogden Daily Union of Feb. 13 1889---all printed in red ink--the liberals claim they will have Salt Lake City in 1890. Provo, Spanish Fork, and Payson show the Peoples Party (Mormons) weaker from year to year. In 1888 a great effort was made by the Chamber of Commerce in Salt Lake, Ogden and Provo to bring out-siders (Non-Mormons) here to improve Utah. An Exposition company was sent East to show up our resources. These exceedingly "progressive people" called the conservative Latter Day Saints "mossbacks people". In this way or more many of our leading men joined and a great deal is being done to make us like the world in general. Money and luxury are at the bottom of it all and while many of the people who should be Saints fall a prey to the moloch of money another portion is fast gaining more faith and good works are apparent.

The temple in Manti was dedicated in May 1888 and Brother David H. Wells is in charge. Then we have those temples finished and thousands of the Saints officiate therein although they are mostly poor people as the rich seem to have neither faith nor records to work with.

In Feb. 1889 the building of a Stake Academy at Heber was spoken of. Prospects are that we will have one there---thus the division line is gradually being drawn---"The Wise Virgins" will observe this, no doubt. The year 1889 was a very dry one with many of the oldest springs drying up. On the eleventh of June the river bed between Midway and Heber was dry. One month later the crossing above F. Johnston's place was also dry. We raised about two-thirds of a crop. Cattle were plentiful and almost worthless. Everybody eats plenty of meat. Dressed beef sold for 4 cents a lb. Wheat for 80 cents, oats \$1.50 per ~~w~~t., potatoes for 60 cents. Good employment at fair wages, mines are opening all around us. The diphteria appeared in the families of Nathan C. Springer and Christian Schani---three children dying in each famile. The health of the people otherwise was good. Many children were born this year. Sabbath meetings were poorly attended during the summer months as many people were absent from home and others did not care to be in so close proximity of the diphteria. The disease commenced in June and ended in Octomber.

From our brethern on missions we received good news, this from Ulrich Probst, Conrad Abegglen and Gottfried Buhler in Switzerland and Germany and from Moroni Gerber in Virginia. The L. D. S. Stake Academy started in the new Stake House at Heber in conference May 5, with Apostle F. W. Lyman offering the dedication prayer. No other ceremony of a public nature was performed. As a general thing peace and plenty prevailed throughout our valley. We had no suits about water. We did the best we could under the circumstaces.

As much as the New West School folks hoped for success in Midway their efforts began to fail as the Saints could see in consistency of sending their children to school where the teachers were not of use. During the summer and fall no New West School was kept. Our district school with Attewall Wotton Jr. as teacher opened early in the fall and was well attended. A. Wootton Sr. went to Heber to teach in the S. West School. Winter set in for good about the 20th of November with a very wet snow, Meetings are again well attended and the teachers are giving fair reports. Everybody seems to be well supplied with the needed comforts of life. None of our brethren in Midway have so far been molested under the Edmunds Law.

Fruit failed in Utah County, hence we had very little up here. Some of our brethren raised quite a lot of fine apples at Midway. They were Levi Empey, Conrad Abegglen, Jacob Buhler, Jeremiah Robey, D. Van Wagoner, A. J. Alexander, J. Burgener, and others. Brother John Kummer raised some fine apples on Pine Creek--a thing considered impossible some years ago. Thus we may truly say that the Lord has been good to us whether we have been good or not. The cemetery was secured. Elijah Alder, Ulrich Abegglen, and Wm. Van Wagoner were, at a mass meeting called for that purpose by the Bishop, appointed as a committee to gather money and obtain title from Jas. Bagley who held the same. They performed this labor faithfully and obtained a deed for the cemetery during Oct. 1889. One lot 25X 25I costing \$200.

A second story was built upon the school house but is yet unfinished. About the first week it rained and snowed nearly every day, in fact it continued until the end of January 1890. In Feb. 1890 the weather began to be clear, again.

On Feb. 10, 1890 the Municipal Election of Salt Lake City was lost to the peoples party. The Liberals having a vote of a majority of 800. Provo is preparing to go the same way. Crops good.

The manifesto abolishing polygamy was issued in Sept. 1890 and accepted by the Saints at the October Conference, the Priest hood voting by Quorums and standing up. The writer was present on the occasion.

The year 1891 was full of events. The manifesto issued by the First Presidency, Wilford Woodruff, Geo. Q. Cannon, and Joseph F. Smith, in 1890 caused a great change to come about among the people. The manifesto abolished polygamy and many of the Saints could not well conform to its requirements. The peoples party dissolved itself and the men were left free to join either of the great National Political Parties--Republican and Democrats. Much hard talk was indulged in by members of both parties, encouraged by news papers. Election returns show that Utah leans toward the Democratic principles of government. At Midway nothing of great event occurred. Crops were some what light the rain in Sept. causing much rust. Prices of farm products were low. Potatoes were raised in abundance selling for 25 cents a bushel, wheat brought 70 cents, oats 1  $\frac{1}{4}$  cents a pound, beef 4 cent per pound. Taxes are increasing with the presence of political men, lawyers. While the farmer had hard work to make ends meet the lawyers want to buy the earth, and the schoolteacher is asking and receiving fair pay for his work, with everything furnished him.

On Sept. 18, 1891 Elder Conrad Abegglen returned from his mission to Switzerland bringing with him the following families Gertsch, Mitzhel, and Andreas Ernsburger and family. On Oct. 8, 1891 John Martin Huber and Jacob Probst started upon their mission to Switzerland and Germany. (About this time--fall 1891) the so called boom in Utah came to an end, leaving many bankrupt 1892.

On April 6, 1892 at twelve o'clock noon the cap stone of the Salt Lake Temple was laid by Pres. Wilford Woodruff, under appropriate ceremonies. About 50,000 people were present to witness the solemn act and the enthusiasm was exceedingly great. The spring of 1892 was cold and rough although coming in early. April was especially stormy and cold.

On May 15, 1892 the first quorum of teachers was organized, Councilor John Watkins presiding. Emil Kohler was appointed for President with John Edwin Morton and Ernest Probst for councilors and Alfred Wooton clerk. The number of teachers in the ward at that time was 14.

Resignation of Bishop David Van Wagonen, on Sunday Nov. 6, 1892  
at 2 o'clock P. M. The meeting was opened by councilor John Watkins.

On the stand were: Pres. of Stake A. Hatch; Thos. H. Giles H. S. Alexander, his councilors, John Watkins read a paper allotting to Midway Ward the sum of \$450.00 to be paid as a donation for the purpose of finishing of the Salt Lake Temple. The Saints responded cheerfully and amply to this call of the authorities of the church. The whole amount to be paid by Wasatch Stake at this time is \$2900. Pres. Hatch after speaking regarding the temple then presented the resignation of Bishop Van Wagonen which reads as follows, copied at the time from the original:

"Midway Ward, Wasatch Stake, Nov. 2, 1892.

Pres. A. Hatch,

Dear Brother: I herewith send you my resignation as bishop of Midway Ward to take effect at date. My business is such I cannot give it the attention it requires. With all due respect I remain your brother in the Gospel. David Van Wagonen."

The resignation of Bishop Van Wagonen who had been in office about fifteen years was accepted some what reluctantly, and Brother Van Wagonen was honorably released from his office as bishop. A vote of thanks was tendered him for his faithful service during the

*Releas  
R. J. Van*

time of office. Pres. Hatch said, "Brother David has been true and faithful, being a strictly moral man, but would not receive lucerne hay for tithing notwithstanding my desire that he should receive the same. That is all the difference between us in my opinoin. What else could be done?

Councilor J. Watkins was then called to be acting bishop until the Apostles would appoint a pernament bishop. Gottfred Buhler was called to be assistant to councilor J. Watkins and A. J. Alexander during this time. On Sunday Nov. 13, 1892 David Van Wagonen Jr. Was appointed to the office of Pres. of the Elders Quorum of Midway in place of M. A. Empey, deceased, by consent and advise of the Pres. of the Stake. Hes was set apart to the office of presine of the second quorum of elders in the Wasatch Stake of Zion by the following brethern: J. Watkins, acting bishop, Alvah J. Alexander and Gottfred Buhler councelors, and Attewall Wotton Sr. of the High Council of the Stake the latter being mouth on Sunday evenig at a priesthood meeting Dec. 4, 1892.

Appointment of Elder John Watkins as Bishop of Midway. At a Sabbath meeting of Jan. 15, 1893, 2 o'clock P. M. Pres. A. Hatch with his first councilor Thos. H. Giles were present. After the usual devotional exercises and addresses by Elder John Mortin and Thos. H. Giles, Pres. Hatch read a letter from the presidency of the church signed by Aopstle F. M. Lyman stating that in as much as himself and councilor had agreed to present the name of John Watkins to the First Presidency for the conformation as Bishop of Midway, the First Presidency after due consideration, the matter having been brought before them by Elder Lyman, sanctioned the nomination most heartily, recommending that the nomination be laid before the Saints of Midway Ward for endersement. It was motioned by councilor T. H. Giles reluctantly seconded by Elder Gottfred Buhler that John Watkins be the Bishop of Midway. Some voted in the Affirmative some few in the negative and a majority did not vote. There seems to be not sufficient under-

standing concerning the matter, the Saints being as it were taken un-  
awares as no one had looked for this matter to come up at this time  
nor in this manner.

On January 29, 1893 at the evening meeting appointed Apostle John Henry Smith with Pres. Hatch and others Elders from Heber came and offered some explanation regarding the order of appointing bishops. Apostle John Henry Smith arose and said, "It is proposed by the First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints that Brother John Watkins be your Bishop, all in favor of this proposition signify it by their uplifted hand." (No second was asked nor offered) The majority of the Saints voted in the affirmative. (No negative vote was asked nor offered.) Although quite a number did not vote Bishop Alvah J. Alemander was chosen an sustained as first counselor to Bishop J. Watkins and Brother Conrad Abegglen Sr. as second counselor. Bishop John Watkins was ordained and set apart as Bishop of the Midway Ward of the Wasatch Stake of Zion of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints under the hands of Apostle John Henry Smith and Pres. Abram Hatch, Brother John Henry Smith being mouth counselor A. J. Alemander was ordained and set apart by the same brethren Abram Hatch being mouth. Apostle John H. Smith said in ordaining the Bishop, after using the usual words of authority, "I renew upon you your former ordination to the office of a High Priest and bestow upon you all the keys and power of that office, etc." Thus we find by this renewal of ordination the sanction thereof by the Apostleship. I heard all this with my own ears and saw with my own eyes--John Huber--It is interesting to hear the words spoken at the occasion of the ordination of a Bishop. Conrad Abegglen was ordained and set apart in the same manner, John Henry Smith being mouth. After many more instructions by Apostle Smith concerning these matters, the choir sang "The Spirit of God Like a Fire is Burning" and after benediction the meeting dispersed. Thus the Bishopric of the Midway Ward was again ordained and set apart. At the Sabbath meeting following Feb. 5th, 1893 the organization of

the ward was further completed with reappointing John Huber as recorder as before and to continue as chorister. Brother James T. Wilson as taker of minutes of speeches etc. at Sacrament Meetings. The brethren to administer the Sacrament were: Isaac Jacob, Elijah Alder, A. Wotton Louis Coleman, Sr. Thos. Hair, John E. Clift. The teachers were appointed as they stood before, with some completion of the roll: First district, Peter Alplanalp, James B. Wilson: Second Dist. Ulrich Abegglen, John Kummer, John Ulrich Probst, assistant. Third Dist. Wm. Coleman and Fredrick Haueter, Jr.: Fourth District Jhón Mürri, Arthur Watkins: Fifth, John Van Wagonen, Everice Bronson; Sixth Gottfried Buhler and Theopehes Epperson; Seven Siney Lewis, John Clayburn; Eight Christian Shani Christian Murri; Ninth John U. Wintsch Christian Mitchell; Tenth John Zeweifel and Morgan Levi Empey.

Issac Jacob Pres. of Y.M.M.L.I.A. with David Van Wagonen Jr. and Peter Alplanalph as counselors.

Mary Watkins Pres. of Y.I.M.I.A. with Mary Jane Birumshaw and Mary M. Probst Counselors. Charlotte Gurney Pres., Cynthaia Wotton; Mary Ann Watkins counselors, of Relief Society with Elizabeth Wintsch as secretary. Attewall Wootton Sr. Sup. A.J. Alexander and Issac Jacob Assistants in Sunday School. Cordelia Wilson Pres. Elizabeth Alexander and Agnes ONiel, couns. in the Primary Association. Gottfried Buhler and Mary M. Huber Probst teachers Theological of Religion Classes As will be seen by reference to minutes of hand , that the former appointments under Bishop Van Wagonen were kept in force and honored and sustained by unanimous vote of the Saints at the Sabbath meeting Feb. 5th 1893, Bishop John Watkins first presenting the name of John Huber and the matter presenting all the names for ratification. In Germany Meeting on the Same day the Saints were advised that Brother Conrad in the Bishopric would preside in his absence Elder Ulrich Buhler would take charge of the Meeting.

(Copied Sept. 12, 1923.) In order to explain certain items of the Records of the 96th Quorum of Seventies, by me John Huber, compiled

for the benefit of said brethern, up to the return of Moroni Gerber from his mission to the Southern States, the following May be of value at some time to some one Viz: Heber City, March 2nd 1885,--This is to certify that Elijah Alder was ordained as president of the 20th Quorum of Seventies under the hands of John W. Taylor, and apostle of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. On Feb. first 1885 given by R. Michie Senior President of the 20th Quorum. The foregoing is a copy of a certificate dated "1885, while its date of the time March 2, 1885 is the time of office of Brother R. Michie, well known to the writer. --

On various days during the month of April 1893 the Graveyard was fenced.

Of the Wasatch Stake there were 830 of the Saints that partook of the festivities of the dedication of the Salt Lake Temple, not by loud of voice or much eating and drinking but by the enjoyment of the Spirit of the Lord in His holy house. Three hundred were admitted on April 16 at 12;30 P. M. among which number the writer and his family were. Three hundred were admitted on April 13th and 230 on the 15th. A goodly number went forth from the Midway Ward.

On April 23rd 1893 John Alma Wootton was set apart at first counselor to the president of the 2nd quorum of Elders in the Wasatch Stake under the hands of A. Wootton Sr. Henry Coleman was set apart as second counselor under the hands of John Wootton.

The spring of 1893 was unusually late. Plowing in Snake Creek field began May first. The summer was very favorable and crops matured pretty well in places which were not exposed to the chills of the September frosts. We raised about two thirds of a crop. Potatoes were good and plentiful, over 800 bushels were paid for tithing at 25 cents a bushel. Wheat was sold for 60 cents per bushel, and oats for 80 cents per ewt. Some good apples were raised in Midway and vicinity. The writer had some choice fruit from his trees up Snake Creek. John Kummer raised good fruit on Pine Creek.

Times were dull on account of the silver mines being shut down of idle. The market for produce and labor was dull. The people enjoyed peace all over the land as the persecution of polygamists ceased since the "Manifesto" was issued. The health of the people in Midway was exceedingly good, only three deaths occurring in one year out of a population of nearly 1000. The Saints of Midway paid a fair tithing for 1893. The total amount was \$1,531, 93 by 115 tithe-payers with 36 non-tithe-payers. During the last week of the year the Bishopric in response to the request of the writer, assisted two days in revising or examining this book in order to find where and in what standing the members with the priesthood of the ward were at the time. We found about 65 souls non-residents who still claimed a standing in the ward. A list of their names was made out for the bishop that inquiry may be made concerning such members. The results of such inquiries were most gratifying in several cases and it is to be hoped that with a short period of time every member of the ward may have been looked up no matter where, how and what they may be. Most of those partly forgotten members lived in Park City for the sake of the making a few dollars to live upon, but Park City is not much of a Zion for Saints. That the bishopric may clear itself from the blood of those, over whom they wish salvation may be fed with the word of life from thime to time is looking over the genealogical records of the ward the writer found farther that besides many sheep having strayed from the flock there was a number who had been blessed when children their standings to expire by neglecting to be baptised when of age. Hence there is plenty of work for the Priesthood at home as well abroad. From the missionaries in foreign lands good news is recorded, John Martin Huber returned home Nov. 11th 1893 from a two year mission to Switzerland and Germany with good reports from his president J.J. Scharrie. Jacob Probst was to remain in his field of labor and is looked for to return home about March 1894. Brother F. Remund is doing well in the Jura Conference, Switzerland. Now at this time the

Midway Ward is divided into ten Districts each having two teachers to look after its members, with and assistance in some cases. The bishop and his counselors are now in apposition to know every member and every man holding the Priesthood in the ward as a complete record is kept concerning the labors of the Saints. At this time an order was started at Heber by some who did not consider themselves very strongly inclined to adhere to "Mormonism". This order was called "A.O.U.W.A. of Ancient Order of United Workmen It appears to be a branch of a Masonic doing embracing within its realm a life-insuring department. Quite a number attached themselves to this order. They did not denounce Mormonism right out but gradually disappeared on the schedule as tithe payers and their names were ever prominent on election tickets. It is understood that by quite working this order will extend farther until it spreads among the Priesthood and members of the church into other settlements. Not a word of explanation of their part has this far been given (Jan. 1894) but judging from the standing of the members and officers of the said order it is---well---what it is. Some men must have a place to go to in order to satisfy their social tendencies. Midway is so far not involved in the matter unless our politicians join. The winter is regular, cold enough and snow enough. The young men are going to the mountains for timber.

In as much as it was the usage at our Sacrament Meetings for the whole congregation to kneel during the blessing of the bread and water, upon instructions given by the authorities of the church it was found that only the one who spoke the prayer should kneel while the congregation remained on their seats in humble reverence which the occasion demanded.

Jan, 21, 1894., By referring to the minutes and accounts of the Midway Ecclesiastical Ward it will be seen that in 1893 the Graveyard was plotted and fenced, a full account of which is given in the book wherein the account of the Midway Ecclesiastical Ward are kept

1894--Early in the year the meeting house was finished. The Bishop and his counselors being a committee to see this labor accomplished. The people answered readily to this call. The year 1894 was a good one all over Utah, Good crops, good health, and peace with abundant good advice and council from the Priesthood obtained. At the general conference in April 1894 the instructions were given as a word of revelation to the Saints that in the matter of adoption of children to their parents in the Temple the word of the Lord comes to the Presidency and the Apostles Children must be adopted to their parents whether those partent have received the gospel in the flesh or not. That every father of mother has a right to claim their own children. Adoption of children (ile.) adults to others than their parents must not be done. Where the parent are not found the adoption should be to President Joseph Smith, as he stands at the head of this dispensation as pertaining to the flesh of Priesthood.

Our missionaries to Switzerland and Germany had done a good work and many Germany Emigrants came to Utah, settling here and there. Jacob Probst returned in good health in March 1894. F. Remund is yet out there, laboring in Zurich and Vicinity. Among those who are now called are Fred Haueter Jr. Emil Kohler, to Switzerland, and John A, Wootton to the Southern States.

Word came form the first presidency that those who joined or had joined secret societies must not be admitted to the Temples. Strict instructions were given upon the scattered Saints in and around Park City a ward of the church had been organized at Park City about March 1894. Elder B.H. Roberts and other elders coming to Park City to lecture and organize.

The Saint in Midway paid \$1,831.55 in tithing of which \$311 was cash The number of tithe-payers is 138, the number of non-tithe-payers is 23. The number of Saints in the Midway Ward Dec. 31th, 1894 is 919. While we had 33 births there were only 8 deaths several being brought over from Park city where disease was more prevalent than at Midway. There are now Seventies 38, High Priests 24, Elders 61, Priests 1, Teachers 13, Decans 15, Members 524, under eight years of age 238.

Of the political doings of the people there is little to say and what there is of it better remain unsaid. The fellowship of the Saints is dearer to the writer than political notoriety would ever be, but then an empty wagon rattles the most is true the world over. If we have to attend to political matters, as seems to be the case now, there is no need of going to extremes.

1895--At our Stake Conference Jan. 26 and 27 Apostle John Henry Smith was present. The Midway choir upon the invitation of Pres. Abram Hatch sang on the afternoon of Saturday, at the Stake House. They rendered four numbers. In the evening Jan. 27 Apostle Smith came over to Midway with Pres. Hatch and counselor T.H. Giles for the dedication of the Meeting House on Sunday Jan 27th, 1895. Apostle Smith offered the dedicatory prayer. The house was filled entirely, many people from Heber having come over for the occasion. The year 1895 was a fruitful one, having a heavy frost though in June. The squirrels were doing much damage to grain crops and wild oats were doing much harm. The election on Nov. the seventh gave the Democratic Party a majority of 57 in Wasatch Co., but the territory went Republican with about 2,500 majority polling 93 straight republican votes to 81 democratic. Everything is cheap--wheat 50 cents per bushel. A fair tithing was paid the best people had. Philip Lenba attended the Tithing Office. Many deaths occurred taking away old people as a general thing, however the health of the people was good.

1896--Pres. Grover Cleveland on Jan. 4th a little after 10 o'clock A.M. signed the proclamation making Utah a state. On Jan 6th is Inauguration day, the state officers entering upon their duties with Heber Mc Well ad. Governor. In the legislature Joseph R. Murdock, Democrat from Charleston is our representative from Wasatch County. Utah sent Frank J. Cannon and Arthur Brown to the Senate of the United States and Clarence E Allen to the Congress. During the winter a mild form of diphtheria was among the young folks terminating fatally only in one family (Chris Murri.)

The Midway Water Works was organized during the fall of 1895 and was preparing for work during the winter trying to convey the water from

Gerber Spring to Midway in pipes.

To day is the 11th of March 1896, a beautiful Wednesday. Snow is melting and the blackbirds singing in the cotton woods. We have organized a young Men's M. I. A. Glee Club to tibe the boys some enjoyment and refinement and to keep them of of mischief. Jacob Probst, Fred Burgner, and others are helping the matter out. The boys are doing well and like it. Most of the boys seem to like a thing of that kind. We first had a double quartet of eight now we have ten. The whole thing is gotten up under the direction of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association of which Jacob Probst is president with John Murdock and William W. Wilson counselors--good luck to our boys.

1896-- June 14-- This Sunday evening Elder Geo. Reynolds address the Saints of Midway in the interest of our Sabbath School speaking much on preexistence and how our lives and responsibilities were connected therewith. Regarding baptism he said that the first baptism is the door into the Church of Christ. An error has crept in among us that after we are baptised and are in the church we might sin again and again and again be rebaptised for the remission of our sins. This is wrong. True Pres. Young advised in times past when the Saints were at times months and years on their journey from the states or from foreign lands to Zion upon the perhaps during that time doing many imprudent things that all being anew when coming to Utah and begin with rebaptism and the first requirements of the Gospel as faith, repentance, and the etc. but now the Saints can come withing a few days or weeks to Zion from any part of the globe and if they are properly recommended by the proper authority in foreign missions they ought to be received as if they came from any of the wards of Stakes of Zion upon their recommendations. The true node of reconciliation after we have sinned is through repentance, with the fruits thereof by leaving off sin. The second confession i.e. if many are offended confess to many, if but one or a few are offended of injured confess to the few. If God alone is offended confess ot Him and if necessary see the proper authority for advice in the matter, then third restitution as far

as possible to the aggrieved party. He had little faith in a public confession if thorough repentance and restitution were omitted. He did not deem it wise that where a man secretly sinned that he should make a public confession and thus ruin his character and standing.

1896 July L---At 3 o'clock P.M. a heavy flood was caused on Snake Creek by a cloud burst at the head of the canyon doing much damage to A. C. Springer in destroying property and compelling him to move his buildings on a higher place. The bed of the creek filled up in many places turning the water into the fields and meadows leaving a heavy deposit of mud. The writer witnessed the flood coming down bringing debris of all kinds which lodged against the timber and brush along the banks of the creek. There were floods at Heber, Center Creek, and in the lower parts of Charleston. Similar to these floods or worse were they in Sevier County, destroying immense amounts of property/ Fillmore suffered very extensively. Apostle Abraham H. Cannon died at Salt Lake City on July 19th and was buried there on Sunday July 26, 1896. Much hay was destroyed by heavy rains. A flood came again down Snake Creek on July 18th, Wednesday night at 11 o'clock, washing out the roads and bringing much gravel. Crops were generally good although the raising of grain seems to be on the decline. Lucern hay, timothy, and potatoes are more abundantly raised. Wild oats, wild mustard, and squirrels seem to make grain raising almost an impossibility along the foothills. Apples are doing well and even pears such as the Flemish Beauty did fully mature and are of excellent quality and flavor. The places for fruit are along the foothills as the bottoms seem to be too cold. There is no question in the mind of the writer that Wasatch County will yet be an excellent place for various kinds of fruit, especially apples. The year 1896 was an exceptional one as to climate. The frost held off in the fall until the latter part of October, and trees ripened until the latter part of October, and trees ripened until the leaves fell in good season.

The mining industry was at low tide with mines shutting down and starting promiscuously. The "free silver" question was snowed under as the saying goes, by the election of McKinley for president of the United States. Utah has now passed her first year in Statehood getting on very nicely in the hard times. The careful farmer has got along well after all and many people are beginning to learn to live within their means and extravagance meets its reward by foreclosure of mortgages and bankruptcy all over this great land.

Up to date of writing, Jan. 12, 1897, we have had but little snow and beautiful weather. Our meetings are well attended and peace reigns in most families.

1897 June 24--The telephone line came to Midway, office at Wm. Watkins's store.

Dec. 31, 1897 for the first time Midway Ward numbered 1000 souls who were resident persons having received the ministrations of the Holy Priesthood.

1898, ----Park City burned on Sunday June 19, 1898 beginning in the morning about four o'clock, about 500 people became homeless and about 61 buildings burned up.

Considerable fruit is being raised, it is found that grafted fruit does best. Early apples and fall apples do well, some kinds of pears such as the "Clopp's Favorite" are a success. Several thousand trees have been ordered for planting in the spring of 1899. We are troubled with petty theives and big theives, too who steal to make a living. They are the sons of parents who lost control over their children. We have now two young men in the penitentiary and one under indictment. Others have left the place and may remain "left" until they choose to be honest men. These young men have caused much shame and sorrow to their parents especially to their mothers and have given Midway a bad name. It may not be a nile but where the mothers are not firmly united with the fathers in bringing up their children the father may

-soon wish that he were "less of a father".

The health of the Saints is good. In 1898 therex were but five deaths, four adults and one baby. One death, that of Sam Mitchel Sr., was caused by a fall from a load of hay while the team became unruly. Today is the 30th of January 1899, Tuesday. Our winter so far has been very pleasant and steady so to speak. Every body is well-clad and well-fed and there is little need or cause of despair. Stock is doing well as there is ample hay. It is likely that much capitol will be invested in the development of mining claims in Snake Creek, much good ore is being found in the mountains. While our financial matters look more promising than they did a few years ago our spiritual life seems to be improving also. The "Word of Wisdom" is being lived and observed more faithfully and many of those who appeared to be slumbering are waking up to sense of duty or better privilege. It is nobody's duty to be a Saint, but at least to the writer, it is a privilege of unbounded magnitude and joy. Upon missions are: Albert Lockner, Aderos Erhsberger, both in Bovaria, Jacob Probst is on a home mission in Utah Stake in the interest of the Y.M.M.I.A., he is at present at Payson. His family live at my house up Snake Creek and are all well. I saw them yesterday and gave Karl (a teacher in the Midway school at present, 1936) and Vernon some gingersnaps, when Karl asked for the paper sack with everything in it, but I saved some "Shaps" for little "Clara". Joy increaseth in a loving family with every new member.

Old Folk's Party Committee-----On the 5th day of March 1899 at a conjoint meeting held at the meeting house a committee was chosen consisting of the following named persons: Wilford Van Wagoner, Wm. Bonner, Edward A. Probst, Eva Bunnell Van Wagoner, Mary Jane McCarrol, Frederick Haueter, Frederick Hasler, Jr., Miss Mary Ann Watkins (Polly), Elija Ol Huber.

A number of the old folks, irrespective of creed or nationality, were assembled at the Social Hall (Van Wagoner Hall) on the 21st day of April 1899 at noon for a time of Amusement, or a general reunion.

The congregation opened by singing the hymn, "We Thank Thee Oh God For A Prophet", John Huber leading and Bishop John Watkins at the organ. Prayer was offered by counselor A. J. Alexander. Speech of welcome by Bishop John Watkins, speech in German by Conrad Abegglen, dinner was spread. The blessing upon the food was asked by the oldest person present, Jeremiah Robey who was born in 1809. The next oldest was Elder Samuel Thompson born in 1811. After dinner, at which about 90 persons were participating, a recess for half an hour was had for social chat, and there was "Chat"!-----

The program was continued: Elder Jeremiah Robey arose and said: "I was born on the 14th day of April 1809 in Harrison County, West Virginia. I heard the gospel and came to Nauvoo in 1814 was baptised by the Phophet Joseph Smith for myself and my dead father. I was baptised in the river. Brother Joseph put his arm around me and said, 'Now your father is happy'. I worked on the temple, did all the turning for that Temple and hung the last door that was hung in it. The people were poor and were harrassed by mobs. I saw all those troubles. I received my Endowments, which paid me well for all I did, got no other pay. I went to Pisgah where I found my wife killing rattle snakes. I was at Nauvoo when Brother Joseph was killed. I had my hand on his horse when he left for Carthage. Bro. Joseph said, ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ 'I am going like a lamb to the slaughter'. Bro. Graham stood by and wanted council from Bro. Joseph who said, 'I cannot give you council now, I am going to Heaven before I come back again'. If we then had been in possession of our guns more than one man whuld have been killed, as it was only one man was killed by Porter Rockwell".

An original selection, Ho the Herd Bells are Ringing, was then rendered by a male quartette, John Huber, Jacob Probst, Edward Probst, and Fred Hasler, Jr. A violin solo was given by Miss Sylvia Kennah. Brother Conrad Gertsch, Sr. formerly from Wengen Alps in the Bermese Oberland of Switzerland sang in the Swiss dialect, I de Fliihan ists

iuns Leba. A violun duet was rendered by Bros. Benjamin Mark Smith and Moroni Blood, it was the old time Rodger De Conley, played in good old fashioned style of 40 years ago and received hearty encore. A step dance was given by Bro. A.J. Alexander. A selection, Not One Remembered Me, etc., was sung by Bp. John Watkins, Mrs. Mary Ann Watkins and their daughter Polly. The latter then gave a recitation, "The Old Man," etc." A quartette consisting of John Huber and brethren sang in German. Bro. B. M. Smith made a speech in which he said that he helped to plow the first furrow on this side of Provo River in the Spring of 1859. Edward Probst and sisters Maggie and Polly Watkins sang "Margurite". Bro. Jeremiah Robey asked that the old favorite, "Hard Times Come Again No More", be sung. This request was complied with by the entire congregation after this the original piece of John Huber, "When the May Breezes Whisper" was sung by sisters Ada Mohlman and Eliza O. Huber, John Huber accompanying with the guitar. The Doxology was then sung by the congregation whereupon Bishop John Watkins offered the benediction and everybody returned toward home mostly all were accomodated with a ride in carriages which had been provoded by the committee. Everybody seemed to enjoy this reunion and the committee with their aids did a noble work and did it cheerfully and unselfishly. The names of those who waited on the table and attended to the comforts of the aged folks are: Miss Ada Mohlman, Maggie Watkins, Lenora McCarrol Baum, Mrs. Eliza Bonner, Mrs. F. Haueter, Ida Bonner, Katie Bunnell Epperson, Ida Burgener, Bro. Jacob Probst, Besides these were present: Simon Schnietter, Andrew Lundin, Bathorine Buhler, Peter Krotzer, Jane Thompson, Conrad Gertach, Nichlos Murri, Conrad Abegglen, Mary Ann Schildt, Elizabeth Schear, Wm. McGimpsy, Mrs. John Clyde, Anna Mohlman, Sam Hair and Mrs. Hair, George H. Bunnell, Anna B. Probst, Bertha Sonderegger, Mrs. Margurite Hasler, Mrs. Elizabeth Alexander, Jeremiah Robey, S. H. Epperson Elizabeth Ross, Mary Ann Watkins, B. M. Smith, Chas. Gurney, Victorine Lournay, Mrs. Lochner, Mrs. Houston, Clara Van Wagoner, Mrs. Thephulus

Robey, Geo. Bauer, Elizabeth Mitchel, John Krebs, Sam Thompson, John Boss and Mrs. Maggie Boss, Mrs. Gertsch. Elizabeth Murri, Melchoir Schildt, Maria Uhtiger, Polly Fausett, Margaret Young, Mrs. G. W. Clift, Jane Johnson, Mary Abegglen, Anna B. Hanni, Melissa Blood, F. Hasler, Sr. Mrs. Walti, A. J. Alexander, Matilda Springer, Mrs. Jane Epperson, John Watkins, Mary A. Watkins, Maggie and Polly Watkins, Mary Watkins, Mrs. Alplanalp, Agnes O'Neil, Thos. Hunderson, Cynthia A. Wootton, Mary McHuber, Mrs. Woltyly, Elizabeth Wintsbh, Mrs. Ernsberger, Christian Bauer, and perhaps several more whom the reporter overlooked in the hustle and bustle of enjoyment.

Sept. 21, 1899 the Rio Grande Western Railroad finished track laying from Provo to Heber about 3 o'clock P.M. The early frost in Sept. did much damage to grain and potatoes all over the west as far as Sevier County. The wheat was injured up north in Cache County and in Idaho the vegetation suffered much and very little wheat <sup>that</sup> was ripe is fit for bread stuff. The writer raised a fine crop of potatoes well matured, also some fine ears and apples enough for family use during the winter. The squirrels have destroyed much grain all along the foothills making it impossible to raise wheat or oats with any degree of success. Years ago it was not so. Not much fruit was raised in Utah. Frost and worms have done much damage.

The mines and railroads gave much employment thus many of our young men are away from home. Many marriages took place during the year. The health of the people was excellent, very few deaths occurred. It is also believed that since Midway Water Works bring pure water to the people of Midway the conditions regarding health are much better. Nothing in the shape of epidemics such as measles, scarlet or typhoid fever, diphtheria, etc. has been noticed in the ward since the people have pure water to drink. This should be a source of comfort to Bishop Watkins and his aids who labored so diligently to bring about such happy results.

Our faithful janitor, Christian Schani, died the 21st of Jan., 1899

apples, pears, and giant prunes.

Small Pox was carried into the county and the family of A. Wootton was first troubled with the disease, however the epidemic was in a mild form and no one suffered very seriously. School was discontinued on account of measles which appeared in December, also in a very mild form. Only 10 deaths occurred in Midway in 1900. The town now numbers 37 persons less than a year ago, several having moved away. The United States census of last June gives Midway town corporation 719 souls, the precinct outside 220, making a total of 939. About 45 or more members of the ward are residing in Park City where the men are temporally employed in working <sup>in</sup> the mines and mills. The year 1900 was from a financial standpoint the most prosperous since our settlement here.

Vaccination is still the talk and the State Board of Health wishes to coerce the people to have the children and teachers vaccinated, but the storm is so great against this compulsion that no doubt the State Board of Health will be shorn of its power by the Legislation.--The Legislature has forbidden vaccination in its session of Jan. 1901 and all healthy children can go to school,---the writer----.

On Oct. 26, 1900 the writer shipped the first carload of potatoes out of this county to W. M. Roylance, Provo, realizing 25 cents per bushel. Bishop Watkins, Andrew Burgener, Henry Zenger, J. T. Wilson, and others sent two or three more cars to Decker, Provo. We are now quarantined for small pox although there is only one case in town, that of J. H. McDonald a teacher.

The foregoing history was copied from a note-book borrowed from Mrs. Jacob Probst, a daughter of the author, John Huber, Sr.

after but three days illness. The funeral took place Jan. 23 at 1 o'clock P.M. The roads were bare of snow and wagons were used to convey the people to the cemetery. There is now but little snow only about four inches in the fields while the mountains are dry and free from snow on the sunny side. It is warm during the day time and cold at night and the sky is clear as in mid-summer.

In some towns in Utah, in Sanpete, Eureka, Spanish Fork, and Salt Lake City the small pox have broken out but up to Jan. 24th only one or two deaths from the disease have occurred. Thus far Wasatch County is free from the epidemics. Much talk is being indulged in about vaccination, there is much cry but little wool. At present the war between Great Britain and the Transvaal Republic is raging, the British thus far getting the worst of it. The anticipations are that much blood will be shed to no purpose only to satisfy greed. The close of the year still rings war trumpet in South Africa and China. In the United States W. McKinley was re-elected president by an overwhelming majority. The Philippine War is still going on in a kind of filibustering way.

During the year 1900 very little grain was raised. Much of the grain planted was destroyed by squirrels. There appears to be no remedy. More hay is produced and the dairy business brings in considerable money. The mines in Utah are giving good employment to the young men at fair wages, from \$2.50 to \$3.50 a day.

Fruit is being raised, such as small fruit. Apples and pears, the writer had 182 bushels of fine apples and 15 bushels of pears all bringing from \$1.00 to \$1.50 per bushel. Bro. Conrad Abegglen, Hugh Coleman, A.J. Alexander, Geo. Bonner, B. M. Smith, and several others had good fruit. Upon Snake Creek there was no frost from early in April until October, a thing that never happened here since our settlement. In 1900 the Pioneer Nurseries Company of Salt Lake City sold and delivered in Wasatch County about 22,000 fruit trees,--